



Australian Paediatric Society.

Level 1, 88 Myers Street GEELONG VIC 3220

Ph: 03 5222 7721 Fax: 03 5222 7517

The voice of rural child health

www.auspaediatrics.com.au

House of Representatives Inquiry into Allergy and Anaphylaxis

Supplementary Submission

November 2019

The Australian Paediatric Society (APS) wishes to add the following to our submission to the House of Representatives Inquiry into Allergy and Anaphylaxis.

The APS gives broad support to the submissions made by the National Allergy Strategy and ASCIA.

In order to achieve the overarching NAS principle of “Equity and access for everyone, everywhere” requires close collaboration between ASCIA and regional specialists and general practitioners to produce solutions appropriate and cost-efficient to that region. Accordingly, we request that Federal Government funding support to develop minimum standards of care and funding support to provide face to face training for upskilling of health professionals **includes APS input.**

APS supports the ASCIA recommendation for improved access to skin testing reagents for allergy diagnosis by clinical immunology/allergy specialists **also must include general paediatricians who have completed specialist training in allergic disease** and practice paediatric allergic medicine.

APS supports a specific food allergen challenge MBS item number with **scope of practice and patient triage for this procedure in regional areas to be agreed between ASCIA and APS.**

APS supports further research into allergy and food allergy treatments and **upskilling of all general paediatricians on sublingual immunotherapy** for grass pollen and house dust mite.

APS supports national anaphylaxis and drug allergy registers, recognising many children with anaphylaxis DO NOT present or are currently NOT RECOGNISED by Emergency Departments. Hence some **funding to allergy practitioners to complete data sets** must be considered for such a register to contain accurate data.

Federal government funding support for regional, rural and remote outreach programs, to provide the right care for the right patient at the right time in the right place **should include regional paediatricians with a special interest in allergy providing outreach to more remote areas of their region.**

Specialists cannot claim funding for a practice nurse. This is a significant barrier to optimal and efficient community allergy care for eczema and allergy education, Epipen demonstrations, Skin prick testing

Thank you for the opportunity to present a rural and regional paediatric perspective on the important issue of allergy and anaphylaxis.

PETER GOSS, CHAIR OF THE APS ALLERGY COMMITTEE